

U. S. Post Office Department
(Old Post Office Building)
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-135

HABS
DC,
WASH,
533A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS
DC,
WASH.
533A-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY WASHINGTON
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) U.S. POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT		HABS NO. DC-135
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1892-1899	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) (Supervising architect) Willoughby J. Edbrooke	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) One of Washington's few examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture, and the only government building built in this style. It was the first federal structure to occupy the Federal Triangle.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Richardsonian Romanesque		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Maine granite		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 200' X 305', eight floors plus basement, mezzanine and full ninth story attic, see photographs DC-135-1 through DC-135-19 for floor plans.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Picturesque chateau roof, 315' high clock tower centered in principal facade, lower stories rusticated, central bays of each facade set back creating four large corner pavilions, turretted corners, arcuated fenestration, ornamental dormers.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Nine story open central court roofed with ornamental iron trusses and a large glass skylight, marble wainscoting in corridors, open cage Elevators. The renovation of the Post Office into shops and restaurants has added brass and wrought iron decorative details to the mezzanine level.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1983 Renovated: Exterior cleaned and interior remodeled to include shopping and restaurants		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Offices, shops, restaurants		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Annual Report of the Supervising Architect to the Secretary of the Treasury for the year ending September 30, 1890. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1890). (cont'd on data p 2)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, Architectural Historian, HABS		DATE July 1984

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